

No. 43 - Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County Integrated Regional Water Management Region

Region Acceptance Process Summary

General Description of Region

The Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Region boundary is contiguous with the Ventura County lines. The County boundary was presented as a logical IRWM region boundary due to the history of cooperative water management, the shared infrastructure, ongoing coordination among the WCVC Region's water management entities addressing critical water issues, and the topography and geography of this Region. This jurisdictional boundary has minor overlaps with the Greater Los Angeles County (GLAC) IRWM Region to the south, where it divides the Santa Monica Bay and Los Angeles River Watersheds. The WCVC IRWM Region encompasses 3 major watersheds, 6 smaller watersheds, and 26 groundwater basins.

There are 10 Cities, 3 wholesale water agencies and more than 160 retail water purveyors, two groundwater management agencies, and five sanitary districts in this region. The WCVC Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) is comprised of most of the entities in this Region that have statutory authority over water management, as well as many other entities with direct responsibility for some aspect of water, wastewater, or resource management. The WCVC RWMG, a large, broadly inclusive group where decisions are made by consensus, was formed in 2006. During the interview, the WCVC representatives acknowledged that there should not be an overlap with the GLAC IRWM Region, that the GLAC Region boundary is correct. The WCVC Region boundary will be corrected to accurately depict that it adjoins said boundary and the corresponding watershed. Also, several groundwater basins and watersheds are shared between this Region and the GLAC IRWM Region, and between WCVC Region and the Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo IRWM Regions.

Interview Conclusions- Approved

The WCVC IRWM Region shares a watershed with two other IRWM Regions. In a June 26, 2009 letter, WCVC, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara IRWM Regions stated that these Regions will cooperate on management of the shared watershed.

The WCVG RWMG must ensure continued coordination and cooperation regarding the Santa Maria watershed and the Hidden Valley, Thousand Oaks Area, and Russell Valley groundwater basins that are shared with the GLAC IRWM Region. Also, the WCVG RWMG must ensure continued cooperation and coordination with the Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Region.

The WCVG IRWM Region corrected the boundary overlap with the GLAC IRWM Region on July 20, 2009.